

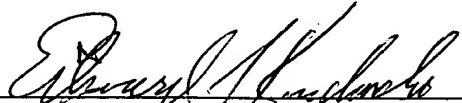
associated therewith. Upon translation of the application, the dependent claims will be reintroduced as singly dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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& CLARKE, P.C.

Date: December 15, 1999

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